

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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C O N F I D E N T I A L COPENHAGEN 2923

E.O.: 11652: GDS
TAGS: EGEN, ETRD, DA, CH
SUBJ: DANISH MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS VISIT TO PEOPLES REPUB-
LIC OF CHINA (PRC) HIGHLIGHTS; PRC DEPUTY PRIME MIN-
ISTER TO VISIT DENMARK

REF : COPENHAGEN 1936

SUMMARY: UPON HIS RETURN FROM PRC, THE DANISH MINISTER FOR
PUBLIC WORKS, KJELD OLESEN, STATED THAT HIS VISIT TOOK PLACE
IN A FRIENDLY AND POSITIVE ATMOSPHERE. ALTHOUGH THE VISIT DID
NOT PRODUCE ANY SPECIFIC ORDERS FOR THE DANES, OLESEN SAID HE
HAD REASON TO BELIEVE THAT DANISH/PRC COOPERATION HAS NOW
MOVED FROM DISCUSSIONS INTO A PRODUCTIVE PHASE AND THAT THE
PROSPECTS FOR DANISH PARTICIPATION IN THE TECHNOLOGICAL AND
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN PRC WERE BRIGHTER THAN EVER. MR.
OLESEN'S VISIT WILL BE FOLLOWED UP BY A TRADE DELEGATION
VISIT TO PRC LATER THIS YEAR. IN THE MEANTIME, PRC DEPUTY
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PRIME MINISTER KU MU WILL VISIT DENMARK LATER THIS MONTH. THE
DANES PLAN TO GIVE MORE THAN ROUTINE RECOGNITION TO KU MU BY
TREATING HIS VISIT AS A RETURN VISIT FOR THE ONE MADE TO PRC
IN 1975 BY THEN PRIME MINISTER HARTLING. END SUMMARY.

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. ON APRIL 29, THE DANISH MINISTER FOR PUBLIC WORKS, KJELD OLESEN, RETURNED FROM HIS VISIT TO PRC. ACCORDING TO OLESEN, THE VISIT TOOK PLACE IN A VERY FRIENDLY AND POSITIVE ATMOSPHERE. HE MET WITH A SERIES OF PRC OFFICIALS, INCLUDING YEH FEI, MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT AND LI CHIANG, MINISTER FOR TRADE AND ECONOMICS.

2. THE MEETING WITH YEH FEI PRIMARILY FOCUSED ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF PRC TRANSPORT POLICY, AND THE DANISH EAST ASIATIC COMPANY (EAC), WITH ITS LONG-STANDING COMMERCIAL RELATIONS TO PRC, IS EXPECTED TO PLAY AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF A PRC TRANSPORT POLICY. THE EAC WILL SEND A GROUP OF TECHNICIANS TO THE PRC TO LOOK INTO ASPECTS OF DEVELOPING THE CONTAINER, SHIPPING AND OTHER EXTERNAL TRANSPORT POSSIBILITIES. OLESEN'S DISCUSSION WITH THE PRC OFFICIALS IN GENERAL REVEALED THAT THEY WANT CLOSER COOPERATION WITH THE DANES AND THAT THE PROSPECTS FOR DANISH PARTICIPATION IN THE TECHNOLOGICAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN PRC ARE BRIGHTER THAN EVER.

3. THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE DANISH POST AND TELEGRAPH, POUL HANSEN, ACCOMPANIED OLESEN ON HIS VISIT. HANSEN HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO SEE THE PEKING TELECOMMUNICATIONS CENTER, AND HE WAS REPORTEDLY IMPRESSED WITH THE HIGH TECHNOLOGICAL LEVEL OF THE PRC-PRODUCED EQUIPMENT. HANSEN'S CONCLUSIONS WERE THAT PRC IS NOT LAGGING MUCH BEHIND IN KNOW-HOW, BUT PRC PRODUCTION CAPACITY IS FAR TOO LOW TO MEET FUTURE DEMANDS. A DANISH TRADE CONFIDENTIAL

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DELEGATION WILL FOLLOW UP ON OLESEN'S VISIT IN SEPTEMBER OR OCTOBER THIS YEAR.

4. THE DANISH PRESS REPORTS THAT PRC DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER, KU MU, WILL VISIT DENMARK FROM MAY 23 THROUGH 28 THIS YEAR AS PART OF A EUROPEAN TOUR. HIS DISCUSSIONS WITH DANES ARE EXPECTED TO INCORPORATE THE ASPECTS OF AN EXPANDED COOPERATION BETWEEN DENMARK AND THE PRC. AT THE SAME TIME, KU MU WILL PROBABLY EXTEND AN OFFICIAL INVITATION TO QUEEN MARGRETHE AND PRINCE HENRIK TO VISIT PRC IN 1979. END UNCLASSIFIED.

BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL

5. THE PRIME MINISTER'S FOREIGN AFFAIRS ADVISOR, HENNING GOTTLIEB, TOLD EMBASSY'S POLCOUNS THAT KU MU'S VISIT WILL BE TREATED BY THE DANES AS IF IT WERE ONE BY A PRIME MINISTER. THEY REGARD IT AS A RETURN VISIT TO THE ONE MADE BY POUL HARTLING IN OCTOBER 1975 WHEN HE WAS DANISH PRIME MINISTER. KU MU, WHO IS ALSO MINISTER IN CHARGE OF THE STATE CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION COMMISSION, WILL BE A GUEST OF PRIME MINISTER JORGENSEN, AND THE TWO--AND THEIR ADVISORS-- WILL MAKE A TOUR D'HORIZON OF THE WORLD POLITICAL SITUATION. EXCEPT FOR THIS EVENT,

GOTTLIEB BELIEVES THAT THE CHINESE VISITORS WILL CONCENTRATE
ON DISCUSSING ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL MATTERS, PARTICULARLY THE
LINK WITH EAC AND HOW IT MAY BE ENLARGED, EXPLOITED FURTHER,
AND EXTENDED TO OTHER DANISH COMPANIES. END CONFIDENTIAL. DEAN

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